526 equally cultivated in Austria. Everything arouses enthusiasm which tends to bring man closer to nature.

HUNTING.

224 Everyone passing through Austria who looks at it with the eye of a hunter will immediately get an idea of the country's hunting possibilities from the variations of nature alone. There are ice-covered mountain peaks with rocky gorges and belts of meadows, dark mountain forests, open stretches covered with undergrowth, reed-surrounded lakes and ponds, fields lined by hedges and the unending ploughed fields of the eastern plains.. From a huntsman's point of view this all affords ideal living conditions for furred and feathered game. This widely varying countryside provides plentiful food supplies for the many kinds of wild creatures who stock it.

The chamois, a species of game which is typical for Austria, can be found anywhere in the Alps. Hunting this mountain antelope, either the red summer chamois or the dark rutting chamois, is considered to be one of the most fascinating experiences. In well-stocked preserves made easily accessible by the narrow mountain paths that are to be found in North Tyrol, it often calls for no special exertion or knowledge of climbing to get the chance of a shot under the expert guidance of a gillie. Hunting on the slopes of the higher mountains where there is rough going among the rocks can be an altogether different business. The hunting tracks often follow difficult ascents with alarmingly steep precipices, the shooting hut may be close to a glacier. The exertion is well repaid on such difficult trips by the excitement of the chase.

A scarcely less thrilling experience—at rutting time it affords even more excitement—is deer-stalking in the mountains. Deer can be hunted in summer in the high alps, but the stalking of the rutting stag is the supreme experience for the sportsman. Anyone who has heard the rutting call of the stag amid the pastures and crags of our mountains, has watched the mating of the noble red deer among the lovely shades of autumn forests and has finally given proof of his hunting prowess by shooting a correctly stalked buck will record such hours in Austria in his golden book of the chase.

HEAD OF GAME SHOT IN 1935

Red Deer	*14,390*
Fallow Deer	*457*
Roebuck	*76,416*
Chamois	*7,279*
Black Game	*157*
Hares	*528,766*
Rabbits	*32,611*
Marmot	*1,543*
Foxes	*11,707*
Martens	*1,265*
Weasels	*7,128*
Polecats	*4,235*
Badgers	*1,076*

224

The stalking of blackcock and grouse is another form of hunting in the mountains. Spring is the time for shooting the cock. When the "Föhn" (south wind) gently caresses the Alps, shaking the snow from the evergreens, and the pastures begin to grow verdant, the capercailye struts and the black cock dances.

In the lower mountains, deer replace the chamois. You will find them everywhere in Austria, above all where forests are interspersed with rocky slopes. Thus the alpine foot-hills to the north and south of the main alpine chain, inclusive of the Wald- and Mühlviertel, are well stocked with this type of game.

Where you find deer, you may well find the heath-cock also. Epicures among sportsmen find themselves well repaid for the trouble of hunting this smallest type of cock. It only frequents the wooded countryside where deciduous trees and bushes mingle with the conifers. Martens, foxes, badgers, wood pigeons, woodcock and fieldfares can be found everywhere in the Austrian forests.

Descending into the valleys we reach the fields and flat-lying meadows, the habitat of the hare. The steppe-like plains and fields are its favourite haunt, although it may often be encountered in forest and mountain country. In ploughed land, however, hares spring everywhere from the furrows and the stubble. The pursuit of the hare, especially if you are aided by a good dog, provides a change and excellent sport.

Shooting waterfowl can be indulged in among the fields bordering the rivers, in the bog and moor districts of the great Alpine valleys and beside Alpine lakes as well as on the pools of the Wald- and Mühlviertel. The Danube, the Mur, the Drau, the Inn, the Salzach, the Enns and other rivers all have backwaters full of waterfowl. The Neusiedlersee with its vast forests of reeds is an eldorado for those who enjoy this sport. Wild-goose shooting is considered to be the most exciting.

Austria's extensive game-stocked countryside provides unusually good shooting. Stags near the Danube, deer, hare, rabbits, pheasants, snipe, quail, wild duck and wild turkey afford sport almost all the year round.

Finally let us mention that boar can be hunted in the preserves of the Wienerwald and the Leithagebirge, and that the uncommonly shy bustard is met with in the plains to the east and south-east

Otters
37

Squirrels
19,026

Musk Rats
3,490

Capercailye and Black Cock
2,859

Grouse
2,210

Heath-Cock
1,410

Woodcock
3,506

Snipe
105

Quail
402

Pheasants
180,314

Partridges
300,834

Bald Coot
218

Ptarmigan
163

Wild Geese
1,038

Wild Duck
11,228

Wood Pigeons
2,995

224 of Vienna. The importance of hunting in Austria and what it offers is shown in the accompanying figures for game killed in the year 1935.

Crested Duck
144

226 The fisherman is just as well served as the hunter, for in the lakes of the Salzkammergut and those of Carinthia he can find pike, shad, lake trout and many varieties of coarse fish. The same is true of the Danube and its great tributaries which even in their upper reaches are rich in all kinds of sporting fish such as Huchen (the land-locked salmon of the Danube), grayling and trout. Trout of course are met with in the smallest streams high up in the Alps. Even in lakes lying at great altitudes there is fly-fishing for black char. Many memorable delightful days can thus be spent in Austria shooting and fishing.

Owls
70

Hawks and Sparrow-hawks
12,343

Crows and Magpies
98,537